

TE KOROWAI O TE TAI O MAROKURA

Kaikoura Coastal Marine Guardians

NEWSLETTER 3 - July 09

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Kia Ora Koutou

WHERE ARE WE UP TO?

Te Korowai o Te Tai o Marokura members have rugged up for the winter and still are busy working towards forming our Draft Strategic Plan.

WHERE HAVE WE BEEN AND WHO HAVE WE BEEN TALKING TO?

All members have regularly been reporting back to their respective groups, updating and seeking any information and solutions that will be useful to Te Korowai.

We are working on a Communications Strategy and intend having some advertised Public Sessions on a variety of relevant topics. We are also working on some advertising of meeting dates on our local Radio Station Out of the Blue FM.

Te Korowai also intends meeting with recreational fishing groups to share what Te Korowai has been doing and to hear the issues and solutions from these fishing groups - so start thinking and jotting down your ideas, we look forward to hearing from you.

We really appreciated those people who have attended our public sessions. Some informative and interesting conversations were shared along with some innovative solutions to a variety of problems - all good stuff to add to our Strategy. We encourage you all to come along and share your good ideas with us - we offer you a warm room, relaxing atmosphere and friendly company!

TE KOROWAI MEETING DATES

Te Korowai meet once month, 1.00-7.00 pm at Takahanga Marae. The dates are as follows:

Thursday 9 July

Thursday 13 August

Thursday 10 September

Wednesday 14 October

Thursday 5 November

WE NEED YOUR INPUT AND HELP!

Yes we do! Therefore attached to this newsletter is a Comments Form. We really want to hear your views, so please fill it in, either email/post (details below) or drop the form into the Kaikoura District Council.

We want to hear what you have to say, we want to see you! We have put aside an hour at each of our meetings above and have a specific time - 6.00-7.00 pm, come along to our meetings and give us your ideas and/or solutions. Because we have such limited time available and we are determined to progress and have a draft plan available by the end of the year, there will be a time limit so that all our visitors have the opportunity to share their ideas. Remember you can also give your ideas in writing. If you would like to use this opportunity and come to one of our meetings, please contact our Secretary to arrange.

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USEFUL INFORMATION

MĀTAITAI INFORMATION FACT SHEET

The purpose for a Mātaitai Reserve is to protect, enhance and sustain the local fishery for future generations. Please take some time to read the following information relating to Mātaitai reserves and how it could benefit you and the wider community.

Q. What is a Mātaitai?

A. A Mātaitai is an area or reserve which identifies a traditional fishing ground for the local iwi and hapu who hold customary authority over that area. A Mātaitai also recognises the special relationship that local iwi and hapu have to that traditional fishing ground.

Q. Who can apply for a Mātaitai?

A. Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki (customary fisheries managers) appointed under the Fisheries (South Island Customary Fishing) Regulations 1999 or those who nominated them, can apply for a Mātaitai Reserve.

Q. What is a role of a Tangata Tiaki/ Kaitiaki?

A. Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki are appointed by the Minister of Fisheries to manage the customary food gathering within a specific area or rohe moana which can include gazetted Mātaitai Reserves.

Q. What powers do Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki have to manage a Mātaitai?

A. Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki have the power to issue customary authorisations to allow for the taking of any fish, aquatic life and seaweed that is currently administered under the Fisheries Act 1996. Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki have the power to recommend to the Minister of Fisheries bylaws that may restrict or prohibit fishing within a Mātaitai Reserve if the Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki considers it necessary for the sustainable management of the fisheries resources in the reserve. Bylaws apply generally to all people fishing within the Mātaitai Reserve. The Chief Executive of the Ministry of Fisheries must advertise the proposed bylaws and call for submissions from the general public before any final decision can be made by the Minister.

Q. What are bylaws?

A. Bylaws are rules that are created to manage fisheries resources within a Mātaitai Reserve. Bylaws can apply to species, quantity, size, fishing method, area or any other fishing related matters the Tangata Tiaki/ Kaitiaki consider necessary for the sustainable management of fisheries resources within the Mātaitai Reserve.

Q. Will I be excluded from fishing, or will I need an authorisation to go fishing?

A. No, recreational fishers can continue to fish as they currently do unless a bylaw is put in place that may change some aspects of fishing like bag limits, size restrictions or closure areas.

Q. Will I still be able to use the surrounding areas?

A. Yes, a Mātaitai Reserve does not affect public or private access to these areas. The general public can still access the fishery and surrounding areas. Mātaitai Reserves have no ability to manage access to private land. People wanting to gain access to a fishery across private land, including members of the local iwi and hapu, will still have to obtain permission from the land owner before doing so.

Q. Is a Mātaitai Reserve the same as a Marine Reserve?

A. No. Marine reserves are protection tools that are administered by the Department of Conservation that generally do not allow any fishing to occur. A Mātaitai Reserve will allow fishing as long as it is sustainable however; it does prohibit commercial fishing from taking place unless it is reinstated by the Minister of Fisheries.

Q. Can the local community be involved in the management of the Mātaitai Reserve?

A. Yes, Ngati Kuri have expressed a clear desire to have local community input into the management of Mātaitai Reserves in their area. For more information please contact: Tim Manawatu, General Manager, Te Rūnanga o Kaikoura Inc, PO Box 39, Kaikoura, 03 319 6513, timm@takahanga.co.nz.

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MARINE RESERVES

A marine reserve is the government’s most comprehensive tool in the provision of area-based biodiversity protection in the marine environment. However, it is important to remember that marine reserves are not a panacea for all threats to the marine environment; integrated land and sea management is essential.

Marine reserves are specified areas of the sea and foreshore that are managed to preserve them in their natural state as the habitat of marine life for scientific study. Marine reserves may be established in areas that contain underwater scenery, natural features, or marine life of such distinctive quality, or so typical, beautiful or unique that their continued preservation is in the national interest.

Within a marine reserve, all marine life is protected and fishing and the removal or disturbance of any living or non-living marine resource is generally prohibited, except as necessary for permitted monitoring or research. This includes dredging, dumping or discharging any matter or building structures.

The public is welcome and encouraged to enjoy marine reserves. In all marine reserves you may: dive, snorkel, take photos, swim, kayak, anchor (with care), navigate through, picnic on the beach, build sand castles, investigate in rock pools etc.

The following extract from the September 2000 discussion document on reviewing the Marine Reserves Act 1971 summarises what marine reserves can do.

EXTRACT FROM TAPUI TAIMOANA: REVIEWING THE MARINE RESERVES ACT 1971

What Marine Reserves Can Do

Marine reserves potentially provide a variety of benefits. For a given reserve, its benefits will depend on its size, location, design, the species within it, its relationship to other sites and marine management tools, and whether and what take is allowed.

Biodiversity and habitat protection: *Marine reserves provide long-term and secure protection from a wide range of potential threats within the reserve, such as harvest or impacts from other human activities. Populations and communities within them have more natural behaviour, interactions, food webs, population sizes and age structures (eg, fishers tend to target specific species, ages and sizes). They therefore can help to ensure New Zealand retains the full diversity of its marine species and ecosystems for the future. Secure refuges may also be required to adequately protect populations of threatened marine species, or critical habitat for these species. Marine reserves will be most effective at protecting marine habitats within the area (eg, kelp forests), sedentary species (such as kina, pawa, sponges and shellfish) and moderately mobile species. More mobile species such as snapper are more likely to migrate outside a marine reserve and become available to fishers, and very mobile species such as tuna are unlikely to benefit from reserves. However, even some more mobile species can benefit from protection within the reserve. Eg, one of the most dramatic effects of protection at the Cape Rodney-Okakari Point marine reserve has been the increase in abundance of snapper and rock lobster. Tagging studies have also shown that although small kingfish disperse widely, large adult fish are resident on particular reef systems.*

Non extractive activities: *Many activities that depend on undisturbed places, such as education, snorkelling, diving, ecotourism and underwater photography, benefit from the undisturbed marine life and more natural marine communities in marine reserves.*

Understanding: *The more natural marine communities in reserves also provide a number of unique benefits for research. Studies can contribute to increased knowledge, and multiple studies at one site over time can slowly build up our understanding of marine systems. Because marine reserves remain undisturbed*

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they can also provide benchmark reference sites against which other sites can be compared and the effects of various human activities separated from effects caused by natural processes. ¹¹

Kohanga: Marine reserves can act as a kohanga, or nursery, where the young are allowed to regenerate. Increases in the size and abundance of species within marine reserves are well documented, both in New Zealand and overseas. ¹²

Genetic variation: Marine reserves can help to protect the marine gene pool and maintain genetic variation within a species, by protecting populations of species.

Spillover: Reserves can contribute to marine life in nearby areas through eggs and larvae being carried out of the reserve by currents. Larger individuals and denser populations tend to produce more eggs. Eg, a 50 cm long female snapper produces 15-74 times as many eggs as a 25 cm long female. The dense crayfish population in the Cape Rodney Okakari Point marine reserve at Leigh produced 12 times as many eggs per unit area as outside the reserve (and perhaps 100 times as many as some very heavily fished stock). Adults of some species may also migrate out of a marine reserve, especially more mobile species.

Fisheries: The MRA is not intended to be a fisheries management tool. Nevertheless there is a growing body of international research that shows marine reserves have positive effects on the size and abundance of local marine species and fish stocks. Despite the small amount of research on spill over, there is some scientific evidence that marine reserves have helped to enhance or maintain fisheries yields in adjacent areas. ¹³

11 Ballantine 1991; Bohnsack 1993, 1998; Murray et al. 1999; Dugan & Davis 1993; Underwood 1993; Dayton et al. 1995; Kelly 1996.

12 Cole et al. 1990; Bennett & Attwood 1991; McDiarmid & Breen 1993; Polunin & Roberts 1993; Roberts 1995; McClanahan & Kaunda Arara 1995; Russ & Alcalá 1996a; Russell 1997; Bohnsack 1998; Murray et al. 1999; Kelly et al. 2000a.

13 Dugan & Davis 1993; Russ & Alcalá 1996b; Kelly et al. 2000b.

COASTAL AND MARINE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES SEVERELY UNDERVALUED: NEW WORLD BANK REVIEW CALLS FOR ACTION TO PROTECT THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

Link: <http://go.worldbank.org/MGIBT1PLOo>

Properly valuing coastal and marine ecosystem services is critical to sustainable development, according to the World Bank publication "Environment Matters 2008" launched April 6, 2009.

Titled: "Valuing Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Services", the review argues that while we recognize that the ocean provides vast quantities of food, offers enormous recreational values, and stores carbon – what is a critical service in an era of climate change – these services so vital for humankind have been treated as "free goods," and the ecosystems that provide them are rapidly deteriorating through overuse, pollution, and physical destruction.

"People still ask me, 'Why do we need the ocean.' I say, 'Well, I suppose we could live on Venus, or Mars.' We don't adequately appreciate the ocean, but we're greatly changing it. What we're just realizing is how those changes are already affecting people, stability, and prospects for peace," said Carl Safina, Co-founder and President of Blue Ocean Institute, as he delivered a keynote address during the launch event in Washington, D.C.

Valuation of indirect ecosystem services such as the regulating role of coastal and marine resources in providing habitat for fish, as a receptor for wastewater, or to control beach erosion, is weak. Our inability to adequately capture and account for these values, has greatly jeopardized the health of marine ecosystems and their ability to continue to provide essential services in fisheries productivity, tourism amenities, coastal protection, and CO₂ uptake.

"The Ocean does matter, and coastal and marine ecosystems do matter in the grand scheme of things. Their importance is vital here and now to our mission of poverty alleviation and sustainable development. We are determined to stop under-investing in coastal and marine management, and to protect vital ecosystem processes. Because, quite simply, we will have a tough time living without them," said Katherine Sierra, World Bank Vice President for Sustainable Development.

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The annual contribution of ocean ecosystem goods and services to the global economy has been estimated to exceed \$20 trillion. Nonmarket values such as biodiversity and climate regulation are incalculable, and the spiritual worth of an intact seascape and the wonder of a coral reef are impossible to quantify.

The last two decades have seen a rapid loss of critical wetlands and coral reefs. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization reports that 20 percent of the world's mangroves were lost between 1980 and 2005. Some 16 percent of the world's coral reefs died in the wake of widespread coral bleaching tied to the El Niño events of 1997. Under a business-as-usual scenario, scientists warn that we may witness the disappearance of coral reefs by mid-century.

Climate change now threatens to push many of these systems over the edge, with severe consequences for society, but especially the world's poor. Coastal and marine ecosystems play a complex and vital role in supporting economic prosperity and social welfare in developing countries. As we progress further into the 21st century, the importance of these coastal and marine resources is certain to increase.

The World Bank www.WorldBank.org April 6, 2009.



If you would like more details of Te Korowai o Te Tai o Marokura, to find out if a Guardian can contact your organisation, or if you need to advise a change in your email contact details, please contact:

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*Akakoā kia pā te upoko o Te Moana Tāpokopoko a Tāwhaki
Ki ngā takutai o Te Waka o Aoraki
Engari, i tākekeā te kupenga a Tahu kia oioi
i roto i te nekeneke o te tai.*

*Although the shores of Te Wai Pounamu may be buffeted by
the turbulent currents of the great waves of the southern oceans,
the fishing net of Ngāi Tahu has been made flexible so as
to move at one with the tides.*

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TE KOROWAI O TE TAI O MAROKURA

Kaikoura Coastal Marine Guardians

Your views are sought to support the Kaikoura Coastal Marine Guardians work to form a Strategic Plan for the protection and use of the Kaikoura Coast and seas from the Clarence River to the Conway River. All comments will be confidential to the Guardians and used for the Strategy.

Name (optional):

Organisation (if any):

Contact details (if you want to be kept informed):

What do you value about the Kaikoura coastal marine area?

What issues do you want the Guardians to address in the Strategic Plan?

Tell us anything else you think we need to know including your ideas on how to solve the issues:

Send completed forms to us at PO Box 121 Kaikoura, New Zealand, email to teamkorowai@gmail.com, or drop them off at the Kaikoura District Council.

For more information see <http://fishnet.co.nz/teamkorowai/index.html>, email teamkorowai@gmail.co, or write to us at PO Box 121 Kaikoura, New Zealand for a copy of the Characterisation Report.

Please write on the back of this form if you need more space or add further pages.

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